AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-9. (Canceled).

10. (Withdrawn) A powdered peracetic acid disinfectant composition comprising:

(a) a peroxide;

(b) an acylating agent; and

(c) a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of linear or 2-methyl-branched ether alcohols having the formula

$$R\text{-}O\text{-}(PO)_{1\text{-}2}\text{-}(EO)_{6\text{-}8}\text{-}H$$

wherein R is

C_8 = 0 to 5 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$C_{9\text{-}10}$ = 75 to 90 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$C_{11\text{-}12}$ = 5 to 15 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$C_{13\text{-}14}$ = 4 to 10 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition; and

$C_{15\text{-}16}$ = 0 to 3 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition

and the nonionic surfactant is free of alkoxylated alkyl phenol.

11. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, wherein the peroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium perborate monohydrate, sodium perborate tetrahydrate, sodium percarbonate, and mixtures thereof.

12. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, wherein the acylating agent is selected from the group consisting of tetraacetyl glycoluril, tetraacetyl ethylenediamine, diacetyl hexahydrotriaone dione, and mixtures thereof.

13. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising

from about 10 to about 70 wt. % peroxide;

from about 10 to about 40 wt. % acylating agent; and

from about 0.1 to about 10 wt. % nonionic surfactant.

14. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising:

from about 15 to about 60 wt. % peroxide;

from about 15 to about 30 wt. % acylating agent; and

from about 0.5 to about 5 wt. % nonionic surfactant.

15. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising a soluble inorganic salt.

16. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 10, further comprising additional auxiliary ingredients.

17. (Currently amended) A method of disinfecting a surface in the medical field comprising:

(a) providing ~~a peracetic acid use composition in an amount effective to kill an organism selected from the group consisting of gram-positive bacteria, mycobacteria, viruses, and mixtures thereof, said use composition comprising from about 1 to about 10 wt. % of a powder diluted in water, said~~ a peracid-generating powder composition comprising:

(i) ~~a~~ an uncoated peroxide;

(ii) an acylating agent; and

(iii) a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of linear or 2-methyl-branched ether alcohols having the formula

$R\text{-}O\text{-}(PO)_{1\text{-}2}\text{-}(EO)_{6\text{-}8}\text{-}H$

wherein R is

C_8 = 0 to 5 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$C_{9\text{-}10}$ = 75 to 90 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$C_{11\text{-}12}$ = 5 to 15 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition;

$C_{13\text{-}14}$ = 4 to 10 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition; and

$C_{15\text{-}16}$ = 0 to 3 % by weight of the nonionic surfactant in the composition

and the nonionic surfactant is free of alkoxylated alkyl phenol, wherein the nonionic surfactant is present in an amount effective to improve the dissolution rate of the powder composition in water;

(b) mixing from about 1 to about 10 wt.% of the powder composition with water to form a peracid use composition; and

~~(b)~~ (c) applying said use composition to a surface in an amount effective to kill an organism selected from the group consisting of gram-positive bacteria, mycobacteria, viruses, and mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the surface is a medical instrument.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the peroxide is selected from the group consisting of sodium perborate monohydrate, sodium perborate tetrahydrate, sodium percarbonate, and mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the acylating agent is selected from the group consisting of tetraacetyl glycoluril, tetraacetyl ethylenediamine, diacetyl hexahydrotriaone dione, and mixtures thereof.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, the powder ~~further~~ comprising

from about 10 to about 70 wt. % peroxide;

from about 10 to about 40 wt. % acylating agent; and

from about 0.1 to about 10 wt. % nonionic surfactant.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, the powder ~~further~~ comprising:

from about 15 to about 60 wt. % peroxide;

from about 15 to about 30 wt. % acylating agent; and

from about 0.5 to about 5 wt. % nonionic surfactant.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, the powder further comprising a soluble inorganic salt.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, the powder further comprising additional auxiliary ingredients.

25. (Withdrawn) A powdered peracetic acid disinfectant composition comprising:

(a) a peroxide;

(b) an acylating agent; and

(c) a nonionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of linear or 2-methyl-branched ether alcohols having the formula

$$R\text{-}O\text{-}(PO)_{1\text{-}2}\text{-}(EO)_{6\text{-}8}\text{-}H$$

wherein R is at least about 75 % by weight C_{10} of the nonionic surfactant in the composition; and the nonionic surfactant is free of alkoxylated alkyl phenol.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the additional auxiliary ingredients are selected from the group consisting of alkalising agents, complexing agents, corrosion inhibitors, and surfactants.